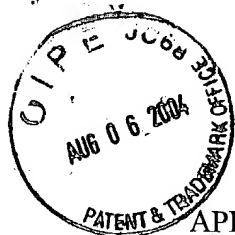


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



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APPLICANT: Thomas B. Schalk et al.  
SERIAL NO.: 09/222,073 EXAMINER: Abul K. Azad  
FILED: December 29, 1998 ART UNIT: 2654  
FOR: KNOWLEDGE-BASED STRATEGIES APPLIED TO N-BEST  
LISTS IN AUTOMATIC SPEECH RECOGNITION SYSTEM

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated May 5, 2004, the Applicant hereby  
requests amendment of the above-identified application as follows: